BRAZILIAN PETROLEUM CORP Form 6-K April 27, 2004

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

Report of Foreign Private Issuer Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of April, 2004

Commission File Number 1-15106

PETRÓLEO BRASILEIRO S.A. - PETROBRAS

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Brazilian Petroleum Corporation - PETROBRAS

(Translation of Registrant's name into English)

Avenida República do Chile, 65 20035-900 - Rio de Janeiro, RJ Federative Republic of Brazil (Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F ____X ___ Form 40-F _____

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes _____ No___X____

Incident on board P-31

(Rio de Janeiro, April 26, 2004). PETRÓLEO BRASILEIRO S/A - PETROBRAS, [Bovespa: PETR3/PETR4, NYSE: PBR/PBRA, Latibex: XPBR/XPBRA], a Brazilian international energy company, announces that, yesterday, April 25, 2004, at about 11:20 p.m. a fire occurred on board the P31 FPSO (*Floating, Production, Storage and Offloading*), which operates in the Albacora Field in the Campos Basin, approximately 180 km off shore from the city of Macaé.

The fired occurred in the platform engine room s diesel generator and was brought under control by the fire crew and the CO2 fire fighting system.

There were no fatalities or injured and no environmental impacts. Production was brought to a halt and efforts are being made to restart production at the platform before the end of today if possible.

http://www.petrobras.com.br/ri/english

Contacts:

Petróleo Brasileiro S.A PETROBRAS Investor Relations Department Raul Adalberto de Campos Executive Manager E-mail: petroinvest@petrobras.com.br Av. República do Chile, 65 - 4th floor 20031-912 Rio de Janeiro, RJ (55-21) 2534-1510 / 2534-9947

This document may contain forecasts that merely reflect the expectations of the Company s management. Such terms as anticipate , believe , expect , forecast , intend , plan , project , seek , should , along with similar or analogous expressions, are used to identify such forecasts. These predievedently involve risks and uncertainties, whether foreseen or not by the Company. Therefore, the future results of operations may differ from current expectations, and readers must not base their expectations exclusively on the information presented herein.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: April 26, 2004

PETRÓLEO BRASILEIRO S.A--PETROBRAS

By:

r: /s/ José Sergio Gabrielli de Azevedo

> José Sergio Gabrielli de Azevedo Chief Financial Officer and Investor Relations Director

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release may contain forward-looking statements. These statements are statements that are not historical facts, and are based on management's current view and estimates offuture economic circumstances, industry conditions, company performance and financial results. The words "anticipates", "believes", "estimates", "expects", "plans" and similar expressions, as they relate to the company, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Statements regarding the declaration or payment of dividends, the implementation of principal operating and financial condition, liquidity or results of operations are examples of forward-looking statements. Such statements reflect the current views of management and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. There is no guarantee that the expected events, trends or results will actually occur. The statements are based on many assumptions and factors, including general economic and market conditions, industry conditions, and operating factors. Any changes in such assumptions or factors could cause actual results to differ materially from current expectations.